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BOLIVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS TALKS IN BRAZIL

PY071809 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1214 GMT 7 Dec 82

[By special correspondent]

[Text] Brasilia, 7 Dec (NA) -- Bolivian Foreign Minister Mario Velarde Dorado today explained that former Interior Minister Luis Arce Gomez, currently living in asylum in Argentina, "is not being sought by the Bolivian Government." He added: "We respect the asylum granted to Mr Arce Gomez, but we would like to recall that he has military problems with the branch of the armed forces to which he belongs."

Regarding the status of former Bolivian President Gen Luis Garcia Meza, Velarde Dorado told this agency: "We do not know whether Mr Garcia Meza has asked for asylum or whether he is in Argentina as a simple tourist or a temporary resident."

The Bolivian foreign minister made these remarks on his way to a working luncheon with his Argentine counterpart, Juan Aguirre Lanari.

Asked about Arce Gomez's asylum and relations with Argentina, Velarde Dorado answered: "Argentina has complied with the Montevideo treaty of 1933 and the Caracas treaty of 1954." He emphasized that "relations with Argentina are good and will continue developing within a fraternal atmosphere because in addition to a common political will, we have geographic and historical bonds."

He was also asked about the feeling with which the Bolivian Government received the announcement that elections in Argentina will be held during the last quarter of next year. "We were well aware of Argentina's intentions to attain democracy through the declaration which the defense ministers of our two countries signed less than a month ago in Buenos Aires," Velarde Dorado answered.

Speaking about his meeting with Brazilian President Joao Baptista Figueiredo, he emphasized that "we did not discuss President Ronald Reagan's visit." He disclosed that he delivered to Figueiredo a message from Siles Zuazo. This message states the "strong interest in strengthening political and economic relations between the two nations." He also said that he invited Figueiredo to visit Bolivia. He added: "I have confirmed to Figueiredo our decision to carry out the negotiations for selling gas to Brazil within the framework of the program for economic integration and cooperation."

Speaking about the subjects he was planning to discuss with Aguirre Lanari, Velarde Dorado said: "I will reaffirm that the Malvinas are no longer an Argentine cause, but the cause of Latin America as a whole."

Other Topics of Discussion

PY081506 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Brazilian President Joao Baptista Figueiredo has expressed his willingness to honor the Bolivian request that a plan for renegotiating Bolivia's foreign debt be drawn up. The Brazilian decision was conveyed to Bolivian Foreign Minister Mario Velarde Dorado during a protocol visit he paid to the Brazilian Government House.

During the meeting with President Figueiredo, the Bolivian foreign minister conveyed the Bolivian Government's firm decision to comply with its financial commitments to Brazil. The request made by Foreign Minister Velarde Dorado was based on the major difficulties that Bolivia is currently experiencing. Velarde added that Bolivia wants to renegotiate its foreign debt -- which amounts to $217 million -- because the difficulties that Bolivia is experiencing prevent it from complying with its urgent commitments.

During his meeting with President Figueiredo, Minister Velarde also conveyed the Bolivian Government's decision to implement the contract for gas supply signed by former Presidents Hugo Banzer and Ernesto Geisel in 1976. Minister Velarde stated in this regard that officials of the pertinent Bolivian and Brazilian state enterprises will meet in Janurary in order to evaluate the status of Bolivian gas reserves. This study will be the final step toward the construction of the 1,750-km-long gas pipeline between Santa Cruz and Sao Paulo. This meeting will be held between officials of Bolivian Government Oil Deposits and of Brazilian Petroleum Corportation.

In conclusion, the Bolivian foreign minister made it a point of stating that no political issue is affecting Brazilian-Bolivian relations, adding that the criticisms raised in the past against the contract to supply gas are a bygone event.

This was a report from Brasilia, where the Bolivian foreign minister is participating in a meeting of the foreign ministers of the River Plate Basin countries.

PARAGUAY, ARGENTINA TO REACTIVATE YACYRETA IN 1983

PY071948 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 3 Dec 82 p 10

[Excerpts] During a ceremony held at Government House yesterday, Paraguay and Argentina signed the exchange notes amending Annex A to the Yacyreta treaty and setting forth other guidelines with the main objective of reactivating the hydroelectric project, whose civil engineering works are scheduled to begin in the second half of 1983. An Argentine delegation headed by Public Works and Services Minister Conrado Bauer and Social Action Minister Adolfo Navajas Artaza arrived in Asuncion yesterday for the purpose of signing the above notes.

Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues and Conrado Bauer, Argentine minister of public works and services, signed exchange note No 14 yesterday. The note states that "with reference to Articles 10 and 15 of the Yacyreta statute, include as Annex A to the treaty signed on 3 December 1973 by the Republic of Paraguay and the Argentine Republic, I have the honor of informing Your Excellency that the Government of the Republic of Paraguay has agreed with the Government of the Argentine Republic that the executive director, whose 5-year term will start on 6 September 1984, will be designated by the Government of the Argentine Republic.

TALKS UNDERWAY FOR BUENOS AIRES-MOSCOW FLIGHTS

PY081937 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2141 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Dec (DYN) -- Soviet Ambassador Sergey Striganov confirmed here today that his country and Argentina are about to conclude negotiations for their two state-owned airlines to establish regular flights between Moscow and Buenos Aires.

After meeting today with Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Enrique Lupiz, Striganov said the delegation of the Soviet Civil Aviation Ministry that has been here since Sunday, is negotiating with Aerolineas Argentinas officials to establish regular flights between the two capitals.

Asked about the status of these negotiations, he said: "I believe they are going quite well but it is too soon to speak about final results." He also reported that the Civil Aviation Ministry delegation will stay here until Sunday.

FOREIGN MINISTER AGUIRRE RETURNS FROM BRAZIL

PY081631 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1606 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Dec (DYN) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari has returned to the country after attending a meeting of River Plate Basin foreign ministers held in Brasilia. Aguirre Lanari arrived at the military sector of the metropolitan airport shortly after 1245.

COMMENTATOR REPORTS ON 'THOUSAND DAYS' PLAN

PY011830 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 Nov 82 pp 1, 4

[J. Iglesias Rouco: "The Thousand Days"]

[Excerpt] Groups and plans like those of the "thousand days," to which we referred to some weeks ago, are beginning to take shape with some consistency. We do not know whether this is so in practical terms, but it is so in terms of the expectations of those who only pin their hopes on the sudden changes in the foreseeable course of history.

One of the differentiating aspects of the "thousand days" secret organization is that it has not just come into being now that we are facing disaster -- as others did -- but 5 years ago when only a few foresaw this disaster. We at least know that this organization is composed of a rather large number of low-ranking army officers, middle-ranking army officers up to the rank of colonel, and some 1,500 or 2,000 civilians of the most different ideological, social and professional stripes. The "thousand days" program has been recorded on 3 and ½ hours of tape, and it has been distributed to personalities in the nation's political and military circles, and even abroad.

What is that plan? An organization member last week gave us the following answer:

"In short, we want to bring the process to trial before initiating the democratic period. The army has to purge the army. To that effect we propose the installation of a civilian government, with the support of the armed forces but without any military junta. We initially thought that such a government should be led by an army man, but now we are also considering the idea that it can be led by a civilian. Some of the officers who sympathized and still sympathize with the "thousand days" belong to the inner circle of the commander in chief of the army.

However, Nicolaides does not want, or perhaps he will not be able, to become president. For this reason we are thinking of a civilian. Our plan calls for two 500-day stages: a first stage to promote national unity by clearing up and resolving the most pressing issue; and the second one, which we refer to as the 'political stage,' will be devoted to laying the basis for democratic institutionalization. It will culminate with completely free elections. During the 1,000 days, the government -- in which only three military men will be included to head the ministries of the three armed services, and perhaps one more to head the Defense Ministry -- should inform the people on the progress of the plan, and consult the people in some cases. It will also be under the obligation to account for its actions to the future national congress."

According to our source, the "thousand days" government would probably declare the political parties in a "state of assembly," and would submit for investigation the case of missing persons, but only within the jurisdiction of the courts. The same thing would be done with "illegal deals." The plan of this government also includes a chapter on "the need to eliminate all forms of violence, respect for individual rights and guarantees," including "freedom of expression," as well as opposition to "authoritarian or demagogic" ideas.

This plan of the "thousand days" coincides in its general lines with the position of Frondizi in the Multiparty Group, and even with the viewpoint of an important segment in the current government that is in favor of an immediate "retreat" of the armed forces and the formation of a transition government headed by a civilian, like Julio Oyhanarte, who the military considers "truthworthy." Other segments of the defunct "reorganization process" contend, however, that Bignone should stay on until the completion of the "democratizing process", and strike direct agreements with the moderate "lines" within the Peronist Party and Radical Civic Union.

There are some within the latter segment who advocate more forcefully the lifting of the state of siege at an earlier date (December, not March) and the enactment of an "amnesty" law with the objective of ending debates -- and military fears -- on the case of missing persons, as well as of precluding the return to the country of some leaders of subversive organizations. Another objective of such a law would be the release of political prisoners at the disposal of the executive branch, and of prisoners who have fully (or partially) served their sentences. In short, this would be an attempt to give "breathing room" to the present government so that it may carry out its "democratizing" task. But the troublesome "internal debates" within the Peronist Party and the Radical Civic Union are crowding out the political opportunity to strike agreements with the "moderates" in both parties; and, therefore, depriving the government of the support it might get from such elements.

FORMER FALKLANDS OFFICER SERVING 15-DAY ARREST

PY081725 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2341 GMT 7 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Dec (NA) -- Col Horacio Chimeno, former chief of staff of the 3d Infantry Brigade -- which fought in the Malvinas Islands -- has been serving a 15-day arrest. The punishment was ordered by the army commander in chief upon the disclosure of a letter Colonel Chimeno had sent to his friends. Colonel Chimeno has been serving his arrest at his residence since 1 December.

In his letter, Chimeno said "the political and military leadership before and during the Malvinas war should be investigated."

Chimeno said his reports on war developments have not elicited "either satisfactory reaction or interest. Nor have I been called to explain, clarify or elaborate on them." "It seems as though there is no interest in listening to the experiences, much less to the judgement of a veteran, high-ranking officer," Chimeno said.

Like other high-ranking officers who were assigned to the Malvinas, Colonel Chimeno was dismissed from his post. Then, as he was not promoted by the promotion panel, he asked to retire.

PERONIST PARTY ISSUES ECONOMIC PLATFORM

PY082023 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 8 Dec 82 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The Peronist Party yesterday announced its economic platform, which favours state controls on the foreign sector of the economy and on domestic prices to achieve "social justice."

The programme, drawn up by over 400 Peronist economists headed by Antonio Cafiero, Alfredo Gomez Morales, Julio Palarea and Eduardo Setti, says its policies represent neither "all-out capitalism nor socialist economics." It stresses the need for better wages, a reactivation of the productive system and solutions to the foreign debt problem. But actual measures to be taken to achieve those economic aims are not mentioned in the 36-page document handed yesterday by the economists to party vice president Deolindo Bittel. They are to be defined "when the time is right."

In the preface to the programme, the Peronist economists described the current economic situation as one of "terrible social injustice" in which "minimal levels of well-being have disappeared." The Peronist approach was described as "anti-oligarchic but not classist," being based on "economic independence, social justice and political sovereignty." Business, the Peronists said, will have to "serve the country" by generating riches for the community as a whole. "Concerted planification shall be fundamentally different from collectivism and from liberal egoism," the document states.

ALFONSIN 'UNOFFICIALLY' OPENS CAMPAIGN

PY081936 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 8 Dec 82 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) In a fiery speech in front of 30,000 cheering supporters, Radical politician Raul Alfonsin said last night returning the country to democracy will require "undermining the bases of a sector supported by speculation and repression."

Alfonsin and Cordoba's Victor Martinez, who are jockeying for one of the presidential tickets for the Radical Party in the next elections, spoke in front of a capacity crowd of 21,000 in the downtown Luna Park Stadium while an estimated 9,000 supporters followed their words from the street.

In his speech, widely regarded as the official announcement of the presidential ticket, the 56-year-old Alfonsin blasted the military government, charging it with failing to work towards a transition to democracy and with refusing to "give up its arrogance." Calling to "a national democratic movement" and warning against "oligarchic speculative powers getting ready to make a comeback," the Radical politician said "a critical point has been reached as far as social peace is concerned." Alfonsin said that for the next democratic administration to be stable, "a strong and autonomous leadership" will have to be established.

Throngs of drum-beating youths followed the politician's speech on two outsize television screens outside the stadium, chanting anti-military slogans and cheering the Alfonsin-Martinez ticket. Alfonsin received thunderous applause at the end of his speech, which he concluded by quoting the preamble of the National Constitution. The audience then started leaving the Luna Park along Corrientes Avenue on their way to the Obelisk, where they were due to sing the national anthem as an homage to the republic.

COMMANDER OF SEA SUPPORT FLEET ASSUMES DUTIES

PY021426 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Bahia Blanca, 30 Nov (TELAM) -- Captain Nestor Carbonetti assumed his duties today as new commander of the Sea Support and Logistics Fleet. He is replacing Capt Guillermo E. Estrada who, in his goodby speech, said that accepting the insulting episode on the Georgias Islands would have been tantamount to accepting a form of serfdom that has vanished in the present day world and has been banished by the organization of world nations.

BRIEFS

URANIUM CONCENTRATE PLANT -- A uranium concentrate plant to be known as Los Gigantes has been dedicated in Cordoba. The plant, with a capacity of about 150 tons of uranium dioxide per year, will be the first such plant that will operate with private capital. [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1455 GMT 16 Nov 82 PY]

HYDROELECTRIC PLANT LOAN -- The IDB has approved a $400 million loan to finance construction of the Piedra El Aguila hydroelectric plant on the Limay River. The plant will have a 1,400 mw installed capacity and will generate annually 5,500 gwh. [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1847 GMT 2 Dec 82 PY]

BEST MACHINOEXPORT CUSTOMER -- Government Oil Deposits has been awarded a scroll as a best customer by the Soviet Machinoexport State Enterprise. [Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 28 Nov 82 p 12 PY]

SALARY READJUSTMENTS -- The government has granted a 14.1 percent readjustment on minimum salaries of the private sector for November and December. [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2340 GMT 23 Nov 82 PY]

NEW NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED -- A new evening newspaper, DIARIO PROVINCIA, will begin circulating in Rawson, the capital of Chubut Province, beginning on 1 December. [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1915 GMT 30 Nov 82 PY]

CONGRESS CONDEMNS U.S. MISSILES DEPLOYMENT

PY090032 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2135 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] La Paz, 8 Dec (TELAM) -- The Bolivian Chamber of Deputies issued a special resolution in which it voices its deep concern over U.S. plans to deploy a great number of modern nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

The resolution notes that this decision of Reagan's administration contributes to a threatening increase of arms in Europe. The resolution then states that the possibility of a nuclear war increases and that contrary to Washington's assertions it will not be limited to one continent only but will unavoidably turn into a world war, with all the catastrophic consequences which stem from such a war for all humanity.

The desire of the National Congress of Bolivia, of the country's sociopolitical organizations and of all the peoples of the Altiplano to energically contribute to the success of the U.S.-USSR negotiations for the reduction of strategic arms is also expressed in the resolution.

ESTABLISHMENT OF FORMAL TIES WITH PLO ANNOUNCED

PY081735 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1428 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] La Paz, 8 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- The PLO will open an official representation office in Bolivia, the level of which will be decided in a protocol to be signed soon.

The announcement was made here last night by the information Ministry after a PLO delegation consisting of its representatives to Brazil met here with President Hernan Siles Zuazo and other Bolivian dignitaries. The Information Ministry said Bolivia has reiterated its recognition of the PLO as the only, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The official communique states that the Bolivian Government and the PLO agreed to open an official PLO office, the status of which will be decided in a protocol to be signed as soon as possible.

Siles Praises PLO Mission

PY090113 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Excerpts] President Hernan Siles Zuazo has publicly expressed his recognition of the work realized by Foreign Minister Mario Velarde Dorado in international diplomatic spheres.

He also highlighted the work being carried out by the members of a commission of the PLO. As will be remembered, the members of that commission have obtained, after meetings with many Bolivian officials, the legitimate recognition of the Bolivian Government. [Begin Siles recording] The presence of a representative PLO group reminds us of speeches we made at the United Nations which led to a preliminary agreement of official recognition of that organization, which is truly representative of the Palestinian people. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTRY ANNOUNCES EEC COOPERATION

PY081510 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry has reported that as a result of the installation of the new Bolivian democratic government, the EEC has decided to reactivate the implementation of cooperation plans with Bolivia within a bilateral framework as well as within regional and subregional organizations.

This statement is included in the last issue of the bulletin released by the Foreign Ministry's press department, which carries a detailed report of EEC activities prior to, during and after the coup staged by Luis Garcia Meza on 17 July 1980.

EL DIARIO WORKERS DECLARE 24-HOUR STRIKE

PY081634 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Excerpt] The workers of the newspaper EL DIARIO have declared a 24-hour strike, warning that they will hold an indefinite strike if necessary.

EL DIARIO's labor committee yesterday reported the reluctance [word indistinct] giving a just economic reward to the workers' professional activities. The workers specifically demand that the firm comply with wage-policy rules enacted by the government on 6 November.

The strike began at 1500 [1900 GMT] yesterday. The strike will reportedly be extended for an additional 48-hour period if a solution is not forthcoming this afternoon.

LA PAZ ARCHBISHOPRIC COMMUNIQUE ON CHURCH OCCUPATION

PY082009 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2330 GMT 7 Dec 82

[Text] We will now read the text of a communique issued by the La Paz archbishopric today. This communique refers to an occupation carried out by a group on strike that demands immediate government intervention in order to overcome the difficulties they have in settling their commitments in dollars. The communique reads:

1. Since the political constitution of the state is fully in force and the entire citizenry is engaged in (?seeking the recovery) of our republican and democratic values, we consider any type of strike which proceeds to occupy church buildings, especially those used for holding mass, represents an act of illegal occupation and an unacceptable abuse by any Catholic.

2. As long as the political constitution is in force and legal institutions are functioning, this archbishopric will not feel it is its duty to protect any group on strike and requests that the state powers act efficiently to safeguard the premises destined for worship and the church offices where constant service is rendered to the people of God.

3. We appeal to the professional ethics of some sectors of the media which have issued false reports on an imaginary brutal intervention by policemen, priests or laymen against a group on strike which illegally occupied the archbishopric yesterday. We request that those who, before verifying the truth of the events, have issued reports which are so contradictory to the humanitarian Christian spirit that moves our priests and laymen publicly retract and deny their reports once they have seen the truth for themselves.

4. In our capacity as vicars of the La Paz archbishop we fully agree with [La Paz Archbishop] Jorge Manrique and support his appeal to the entire citizenry to carry out out the democratic process responsibly [words indistinct] the citizenry activities within the strict respect of our laws and definitely desist in resorting to illegal means to exert pressure, which only disturbs the necessary peace that must be based on justice and the citizenry's fraternal coexistence.

Signed: Msgr (Ademar Esquivel), auxiliary bishop of La Paz and the episcopal vicars of La Paz city zones.

SUCCESSION TOPIC OF FIGUEIREDO, PIRES SPEECHES

President Figueiredo

PY080247 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 7 Dec 82

[Excerpts] At 1300 today, President Figueiredo participated in a luncheon with army, navy and air force officers. Army Minister Walter Pires greeted the president on behalf of the military officers. He stressed the nation's role in the near future. President Figueiredo then spoke.

The president reaffirmed his decision to face all obstacles, in an effort to fulfill the commitment to make Brazil a democracy. He said that this was achieved by the electoral success and the results of the ballot boxes.

[Begin Figueiredo recording] I am convinced that the recent victories of my party and of the opposition are victories for our democracy, which I am proud of. This also encourages me to continue working to achieve the consolidation of our political plan. I am doing so with the conviction that the result of the ballot boxes, far from promoting division, will suggest solutions to many of our problems, as a free and conscious expression of our people, once again revealing the aversion of the people to any kind of extremism. [end recording]

Voicing assurances of his commitment to the goal of his government to institutionalize the republican state, Figueiredo added: [Begin Figueiredo recording] I believe I am not trying to monopolize the truth, because it is not mine alone, but I will not allow certain political trends to be turned into simple trends of extremism. We have already defeated misunderstandings and the lack of confidence, and we will know how to defeat, in due time, ambition and selfishness. The name of my successor will be released when I find it most appropriate. Everything else is just mere speculation. People are speculating about something that has not been thought about or outlined. [end recording]

Army Minister Pires

PY090013 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Dec 82 p 1

[Excerpts] The 1984 presidential succession was the main subject of the speeches made by President Figueiredo and Army Minister Walter Pires yesterday during the end of year luncheon which 132 army, navy and air force officers offered the chief of state at the army club in Brasilia.

Minister Walter Pires, speaking in his "capacity as army minister and on behalf of the ministers of the other forces," assured President Figueiredo of the resolve to prevent the import of models or any form of intervention by the Socialist International. Further on, in referring to the presidential succession, Pires stated that the military's "constant concern" is to prevent the future chief of state from being someone "who lacks the support, background and ability which would make him worthy to conduct the destiny of the great democracy, whose foundation was set and will be upheld by the ideals of the March 1964 revolution."

In referring to the recent elections for state governors, President Figueiredo voiced his conviction "that the results of these elections instead of causing divisions could suggest solutions to many of our problems if they are viewed as a free and conscientious expression of our people who once again have revealed their aversion to any type of extremism."

Figueiredo ended his speech by reasserting his faith in the democratic future of Brazil and asked God to "give me the strength and inspiration to keep this commitment."

In Sao Paulo Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party senator-elect Severo Gomes stated that "what could be termed as a deal among friends can hardly be avoided in an indirect election with an electoral college which has already been elected.

XAVANTES DELIVERY TO ARGENTINA BEGINS THIS WEEK

PY090245 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 8 Dec 82 p 22

[Excerpts] As a result of the direct negotiations carried out between the Argentine Government and the Brazilian Air Ministry, delivery to the Argentine Government of 12 Xavante planes -- jet aircraft for tactical support and ground attack assembled by the Brazilian Aeronautics Company (Embraer) -- will begin this week.

Osires da Silva, Embraer trade director, pointed out that the company never took part in the negotiations with Argentina and that the only Xavante planes sold to River Plate Basin countries were nine planes delivered to Paraguay 2 years ago. Osires da Silva said that he was unaware of the details of the negotiations and the delivery date for the aircraft and only admitted that the planes had been checked out by Embraer.

A military source asserted that delivery of the Xavante planes has started and explained that they are not being loaned to Argentina, as was the case of the two Bandeirante planes during the Malvinas war, but that the Brazilian Air Force had them available since last year. Embraer stopped manufacturing Xavante planes 3 years ago while Argentina continues to assemble identical planes, the one-seater MB-339.

TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH GDR FOR 1983

PY091108 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 8 Dec 82 p 22

[Text] Carlos Viacava, secretary general of the Finance Ministry, and Wilhelm Bastian, GDR foreign trade vice minister, signed an agreement yesterday by which Brazil in 1983 will export goods worth $200 million to the GDR and will import GDR goods worth $170 million.

Although the agreement now signed attests to the continuing good relations between the two countries, Viacava said that an arrangement was made for the GDR to reduce the level of its debt to Brazil -- whose amount was not revealed -- in view of our country's external difficulties.

According to the agreement Brazil will export to the GDR $75 million of soybean meal, $50 million of coffee, $40 million of textiles and wool and the remaining $35 million worth of shoes, cocoa by-products and castor oil.

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT ON FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

PY080240 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 7 Dec 82

[Text] Brasilia -- Central Bank President Carlos Langoni has stated that Brazil will still encounter a difficult financial period between the end of the year and the beginning of 1983. For this reason, we will try to secure a short-term loan from a group of large international banks. Langoni added that the IMF resources will be available only by the end of January if the agreement is signed quickly.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC SITUATION

PY081845 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Dec 82

[Relay from Angol by Graciela Contreras]

[Text] The president of the republic has called on the people to look upon the current situation calmly and upon the debtors and banks as well as the government not to lose hope. He also called on all Chileans to stop looking for the guilty since the government is concerned about everyone, and the responsibility of finding a way to solve the problems is also something which concerns everyone.

The president made these statements in an forceful speech at a luncheon given in his honor by the Angol community where he paid a 1-day visit to attend the closing ceremonies of this city's anniversary.

In referring to the current crisis which the country is undergoing the president stated that everyone complains and wonders whether the loans were invested in the agricultural, industrial or productive sectors. He pointed out that the banks also share the blame in what has happened because they did not take into account that they were granting loans to people who would not be able to repay them. He added that the banks did not request information on the projects to be carried out nor did they obtain proper collateral for loan repayment. And now they complain. He then stated that the government can also be blamed for being too soft because I should have expelled from the country at least 100 or 200 people who created dummy companies and conglomerates and also fictitious problems. The government is also to blame for this. Unfortunately, President Pinochet noted here in Angol, by abiding by the rules and being so respectful of them, we have made a very serious mistake, which consists of allowing actions by persons who were incapable of facing our problems with patriotism. President Pinochet also stated that the people will not bear the blame for the actions carried out by those persons. At this point in the speech, President Pinochet was interrupted by loud applause.

In his speech to the community of Angol, President Pinochet also referred to the measure adopted last Sunday ordering the expulsion from the country of Carlos Podlech, leader of the wheat growers. President Pinochet stated that the government has adopted a number of measures which are not harsh, but which show that the government is strong. One of the persons who was expelled was my protege, someone I love very much. That person, whom I have known since my youth, attempted to question my authority. As our religion says -- for those of us who are Catholics -- one must make sure that authority is respected because it is bestowed upon one by God. Although I love that person, I had to expel him because he refused to acknowledge my authority. If my brother or if a relative of mine acted in the same way, I would not hesitate to expel him either. This is the policy maintained by the government and by the president of the republic.

President Pinochet concluded by stating that the country will overcome the present emergency. This situation has helped us to adopt new measures and to see how the dummy conglomerates collapse and how those who abuse their rights are sanctioned. President Pinochet gave assurances to the people of Angol that the country will emerge cleaner and with new prospects from the present serious crisis.

President Pinochet returned to Santiago after dedicating 60 houses in (Alemania Tercera), thus concluding his 1-day visit to the city of Angol. This was a report for Radio Nacional of Chile.

WAR MINISTER CISNEROS DISCUSSES MILITARY ROLE

PY082255 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 11 Nov 82 p A 4

[Text] War Minister Luis Cisneros Vizquerra stated yesterday that "the army is emphasizing the return of military officers to their professional duties." He added that "the army is exclusively devoted to the functions assigned it by the Constitution in the fields of security and participation in attaining national development."

In statements made to the journalists on leaving the Congress building -- where he participated in the meeting of the Joint Congressional Budget Committee to support appropriations for the army -- Minister Cisneros stated that the Peruvian people "can rest assured that the Pervian Army is capable of facing any threat."

Minister Cisneros stated this while expressing his views regarding the possibility of a disarmament campaign in Latin America. Upon noting that the Peruvian Army has always supported disarmament, Cisneros stated that "we are convinced that countries like Peru need to devote most of their resources to attaining development."

Minister Cisneros stated, however, that Peru is not responsible for the arms race, noting that "we will continue to purchase equipment if necessary, because we have the constitutional duty to secure the country's sovereignty and integrity."

Cisneros also denied that the Brazilian Government has offered to sell aircraft to the Peruvian Army and pointed out that there are no plans to purchase sizeable quantities of planes in the near future.

In referring to certain rumors that state that President Belaunde cancelled his visit to the United States due to the alleged opposition of the armed forces, Cisneros stated that those rumors "seek to disrupt the relationship between the army and the government."

He pointed out that "I am certain and can assure that neither the army nor any other branch of the armed forces has any intention of ousting the constitutional government."

In referring to the army's budget, Cisneros stated that this year it amounted to 117 billion soles and that budget estimates for 1983 amount to over 200 billion soles.

He pointed out that the Joint Congressional Budget Committee still has not allotted the portion for the army and that it is still listening to the army's requirements and agrees that the previously established amount should be increased.

When asked about the possibility of the Senate Commission for National Defense and Domestic Order evaluating the members of the armed forces who have been proposed for promotion to the next higher rank, Cisneros stated that "a personal evalutation is not really necessary."

He stated that the evaluation made by the army leadership is a "good enough evaluation." He also pointed out the War Ministry ratifies the proposals made by the army which are, in turn, endorsed by the chief of state.

PRESIDENT NAMES ARTURO SOSA NEW FINANCE MINISTER

PA082312 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Just as this station has announced, President Luis Herrera Campins this afternoon confirmed the appointment of Arturo Sosa as the new finance minister. He will be sworn in at 1630 on Friday, the president reported:

[Begin Herrera Campins recording] I decided to call you to Miraflores Palace this afternoon, where I am accompanied by Information and Tourism Minister Guido Diaz Pena, to announce to the nation the appointment of Arturo Sosa as the new finance minister.

I personally asked Finance Minister Luis Ugueto not to make any announcement about his resignation so that I could do it at a time when I could announce to the country the name of his successor, who just returned from the United States last night. He will be sworn in at Miraflores Palace at 1630 on Friday.

I want to take this opportunity to thank [words indistinct] and to pay tribute to the work that Luis Ugueto, an old and dear friend, did for the 3 years and 9 months that he headed the Finance Ministry under difficult circumstances for the country because, as I said when I was inaugurated, we received a mortgaged nation with a [word indistinct] economy that was completely [word indistinct]. We had to face this reality [word indistinct] taking several measures amid dramatic circumstances in the world and on the continent, which called for decisiveness, will, courage and much patriotic spirit for the good of the country.

Ugueto was a very efficient colleague as the head of [words indistinct] with much responsibility, consideration and dedication he fulfilled the duties that were required of him by the Constitution and the law. In addition, he fulfilled all the duties that I, as the constitutional president, entrusted to him for the benefit of [word indistinct].

Therefore, in leaving the Finance Ministry, he is providing for a change that is one of the characteristics of democracy. I want to make this public [word indistinct] of the trust I always had in his ability and his devotion to work. [end recording]

POPE EXPECTED TO VISIT IN SPRING OF 1983

PA070258 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 6 Dec 82

[Text] His Holiness John Paul II will visit Venezuela in April or May after attending the Latin American episcopal conference in Haiti.

This announcement was made at Miraflores Palace after President Luis Herrera Campins received David Meneses, a deputy to whom the pope granted an audience in Rome.

As it might be recalled, a Venezuelan delegation officially invited the holy father to attend the celebrations of the bicentennial of the birth of Simon Bolivar, the liberator, and this invitation was subsequently accepted.

The invitation was made in Manaus, Brazil, on 11 July 1980. The delegation in question was headed by former Justice Minister Jose Guillermo Andueza.

The pope confirmed to Meneses that he is planning to visit Venezuela after the episcopal conference in Haiti and this will be in either April or May, but he didn't specify the exact date.

'SNEAK PREVIEW' OF 83 BUDGET REVEALS 'SHARP CUTS'

FL090105 Bridgetown CANA in English 0048 GMT 9 Dec 82

[By Simon Alterman]

[Text] Mexico City, Dec 8, CANA-REUTER -- President Miguel de la Madrid has given a sneak preview of Saturday's Mexican budget in which sharp cuts in government spending likely to hurt the country's poor will be balanced by hefty new taxes on the rich.

One week after taking office, the president sent Congress his budget for 1983 which will be officially unveiled by Finance Minister Jesus Silva Herzog in his budget speech on Saturday.

Mr de la Madrid also issued a 65-page document entitled "general criteria of economic policy for the 1983 budget" in which he laid out in the starkest language yet the gravity of Mexico's financial crisis and his measures to fight it.

"Mexico is living in a crisis whose dimensions are without precedent since the great depression of the 1930's," he said, sounding a similar theme to his unusually blunt inaugural address last Wednesday.

"We must not hope for any magic cure or for free help from the outside...my programme implies an austerity effort without precedent in the history of the country," he added.

He also spelled out his plans to modify the exchange controls imposed by his predecessor Jose Lopez Portillo in September, partially restoring a free foreign exchange market.

"To stabilise the exchange market, important adjustments and simplifications to the present system will be proposed, based initially on a dual system involving a free market and a controlled one," he said.

In an effort to fight the shortage of hard currency which prevented the country [from] meeting payments on its 80 billion dollar foreign debt this summer, Mr Lopez Portillo established an ordinary exchange rate of 70 pesos to the dollar and a preferential rate of 50 to the dollar.

In effect, private companies have not been able to buy dollars for their imports on debt payments at these rates and many have turned to the black market where dollars can be bought [passage indistinct] in his document that the government would attempt to replace external borrowings with internal savings as a means of financing investment and development.

But he said in order to bring the government's budget deficit down -- as promised to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in a preliminary agreement for a 3.84 billion dollar loan -- investment in many projects would have to be cut.

Instead, capital spending will be channelled to labour intensive schemes to try to stem the rise in unemployment.

Mexico promised the IMF that the budget deficit would be slashed from an estimated 16.5 per cent of gross domestic product -- the value of all goods and services produced by the Mexican economy -- to 8.5 percent in 1983.

To do so cuts in spending in the 1983 budget will be balanced by major tax increases, especially on consumption.

Income taxes will be reduced for those with low incomes but raised for those who earn more. Value added tax (VAT), now 10 per cent, will go up with a special rate levied on unspecified luxury goods, but basic foodstuffs will be exempt from VAT.

Taxes on the use and ownership of vehicles will be raised while shareholders will now have to declare their holdings and dividend income for tax purposes.

In a separate press release, the government said that next year it planned to spend some 7,000 billion pesos (100 billion dollars at the present exchange rate).

Spending under all major headings will rise, but by much less than the rate of inflation which Mr de la Madrid said will approach 100 per cent for 1982.

However, no figures were given for government revenues nor for the peso value of the budget deficit, which should be announced by Mr Silva Herzog on Saturday.

U.S. IMMIGRATION SERVICE ACCUSED OF MURDER

PA081242 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0344 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Dec (EFE) -- Members of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service recently killed "at least 10 Mexicans without identity papers," it was announced today in this capital.

Jose Jacques Medina, secretary general of the National Union of Mexican Migrant Workers [Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores Migratorios de Mexico], has told the local evening newspaper ULTIMAS NOTICIAS that several of these Mexicans "were forced to jump into the Fresno River in California to drown."

According to Medina, he already has evidence and testimony of what he describes as crimes against Mexicans without identity papers.

He said, in conclusion, that the results of the investigation currently underway will be announced next week, along with the names of the victims.

BRIEFS

INTERPOL OFFICE CLOSED -- Mexico City, 6 Dec (EFE) -- Attorney General Sergio Garcia ordered today that Interpol's office in Mexico, officially known here as the Information and Analysis Section, must be closed. From now on, all information required by police in other countries will be channeled directly through Manuel Ibarra, general director of the Federal Judicial Police, PJF, which is subordinate to the Attorney General's Office. Interpol's office here in Mexico, which it has occupied for years, will be dismantled as of today and those Mexicans who used to work there will now work with the PJF. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0413 GMT 7 Dec 82 PA]

LABOR MINISTER ON POSSIBLE BANANA FARMS CLOSURE

PA061243 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Dec 82 p 16-C

[Excerpt] Labor Minister Jose G. Montenegro has said "In my opinion, the best thing for the company to do is to avoid the price war that is currently affecting the banana market and to refrain from the risk of reducing its personnel, so that an adequate work atmosphere and the relations that should exist between a company and its workers can be maintained."

Montenegro made this statement when asked about the problem of the Chiriqui Land Company -- a subsidiary of the United Brands Company -- involving the possible closure of four banana plantations on the Pacific side and the consequences of this decision on increased unemployment in Panama.

The labor minister said the Chiriqui Land Company has not filed official notification of its intention to suspend activities on the banana farms, in accordance with the procedures established in Panama's labor laws. He added that at a meeting between President de la Espriella and executives of the United Brands Company and its subsidiary, the Chiriqui Land Company, the president was notified of this intention verbally and informally.

PAPER CRITICIZES U.S. CUBA, NICARAGUA POLICIES

PA052007 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 2 Dec 82 p 20

["Vox Populi" column by Luis Restrepo Rosas]

[Text] Taking advantage of the short visit to several Latin American countries carefully chosen after several months of study, U.S. President Ronald Reagan has once again launched an attack against Cuba and Nicaragua, repeating the tired litany of the Cubanization of Sandino's homeland and the Nicaraguan arms buildup.

For Mr Reagan and all his followers, the presence of 3,000 Cuban teachers in Nicaragua is a crime that cannot be forgiven. Teaching the Nicaraguans to read and write is something unusual to Mr Reagan. It is better to teach the Hondurans and Salvadorans -- who don't know how to read -- to kill.

He speaks about an arms buildup in Nicaragua but doesn't mention the tons of weapons that arrive every month in Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica and other countries of the region, which are sent by Mr Reagan.

Nicaragua defends itself from aggression, while the attacking country continues its systematic steps, using every resource available. The blockade imposed on Cuba more than 20 years ago with the cooperation and the blessing of the OAS cost the Cuban people great sacrifices which they have overcome with the cooperation of friendly countries. An economic quarantine was imposed on Cuba, a quarantine that fortunately was broken precisely by allies of the United States that realized they were becoming accomplices to one of the most deadly political crimes of this century. The Cuban blockade cost the lives of hundreds of Cubans, especially children who were sudden victims of an epidemic at the beginning of the blockade. Washington imposed its power to stop the sending of vaccines that were essential to save lives. After a short waiting period Canada sent the vaccines, as did Spain and France, but hundreds of children were already dead.

There was not much in Cuba. They did not have the luxuries seen and longed for by the poor people in consumer societies. The Cuban people, however, accepted all sacrifices, upholding their freedom, their sovereignty and their independence; and today the country is in a condition to help its sister nation, Nicaragua, with teachers, doctors, nurses, and agricultural experts.

Washington has depicted each one of these doctors, teachers, experts and nurses as clad in an olive-green uniform, and Washington has turned the books, medicines, laboratories, hospitals, tractors, seeds and raw materials into weapons.

According to Mr Reagan, it would be better to have the presence in Nicaragua of "Marines" with their M-16 rifles, and of Israeli and South African weapons and Argentine military advisers -- experts in torture.

The aggressor does not stop his advance against Cuba, Nicaragua, Grenada -- and also against Panama, as evidenced by the constant violations of the Panama Canal treaties, the "Zonian" rebellion and the racial and wage aggressions against Panamanian employees by the Panama Canal Commission and the U.S. Armed Forces in Panama.

BRIEFS

PIPELINE REVENUES -- Thirty million barrels of crude oil from Alaska have passed through the oil pipeline linking Chiriqui and Bocas del Toro during its first 2 months of operation. Jose Arosemena, general manager of Petroterminales Panama, has said that Panama has earned more than $4 million in the process. Arosemena announced that the pipeline will be officially inaugurated next 18 and 19 January. President de la Espriella is exptected to attend the ceremony. [Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 5 Dec 82 p 1 PA]

BELIZE

UDP LEADER ARANDA RESIGNS; REPLACEMENT NAMED

PA090321 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0139 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] Belmopan, 8 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Theodore Aranda, leader of the opposition United Democratic Party [UDP], has resigned from the political leadership of that party, the newspaper THE BEACON reported today.

The party's information organ indicated that Aranda's resignation followed the recent decision of the party's national executive board to remove him from the leadership.

He was supposed to be leader of opposition affairs in the House of Representatives but, according to THE BEACON, he will now stay on as an independent. The paper notes that he is ready to form a new political institute.

Curl Thompson, a union leader and merchant, will replace him.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN ON U.S. AID AGREEMENT

PA090350 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] San Jose (DPA) -- The agreement for U.S. aid to Costa Rica will be signed tomorrow. Initial help will be for $70 million.

It was learned that this sum will come from Reagan's plan for Central America and the Caribbean, as agreed over the weekend by the presidents of the two countries.

Government spokesmen expressed their satisfaction, since U.S. aid has materialized only 5 days after President Reagan's visit to Costa Rica.

EL SALVADOR

FDR STATEMENT ON REAGAN LATIN AMERICA VISIT

PA090423 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Statement issued by the Revolutionary Democratic Front explaining its "official position" on President Reagan's visit to Latin America -- date not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Revolutionary Democratic Front, FDR, states the following regarding President Ronald Reagan's visit to Central America:

1. Central America is experiencing an explosive situation, and in view of this, governments and political forces of the continent have proposed various solutions. These governments and political forces include the Governments of Mexico, Venezuela and Nicaragua in addition to the FMLN-FDR. Therefore, it was important to learn what political positions U.S. President Ronald Reagan would announce regarding the regional situation during his recent visit to Costa Rica and Honduras.

2. We saw that Mr Reagan's tour constituted an advance in the current U.S. Republican administration's plan for military, political, economic and diplomatic intervention.

It did not seek peace and democracy; on the contrary, it sought to consolidate an alliance of military dictatorships and civilian governments of the region to isolate and destabilize the Nicaraquan revolutionary government and to contain and destroy the struggles of the Salvadoran and Guatemalan patriots.

3. President Reagan ignored the proposal for a peaceful solution that was made public by the Venezuelan and Mexican Governments in recent weeks. Moreover, the U.S. Administration sought the support of the Brazilian and Colombian Governments to strengthen its warmongering policy in Central America. Nevertheless, those governments fully understood the situation of the area, and they did not fall into the U.S. Government's trap. This visit also showed scorn for the desires, suggestions and demands of other goverments and broad political, social, religious, humanitarian and other sectors of the United States and the world that advocate peaceful alternatives to overcome the current conflicts.

4. Mr Reagan knows that the U.S. policy being implemented in El Salvador is in serious difficulty and is doomed to failure. What he does not see is that his need to meet with provisional Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana has placed at stake before the U.S. Congress the prestige of the U.S. Presidency. President Reagan knows it is very difficult to certify respect for human rights in El Salvador, since the Salvadoran Government is comprised of groups that order and implement a repressive policy and even receive the support of U.S. advisers. Despite this, the Republican administration will try to convince the U.S. Congress of the progress of the political-military plan in our country and will press for maintaining and intensifying the U.S. logistical support that keeps the Salvadoran regime alive. However, they cannot ignore the fact that the people's struggle is intensifying and that as long as a dialogue with the FMLN-FDR does not take place the crisis of El Salvador and Central America cannot be resolved.

5. In this sense the FDR reiterates before history that dialogue is the rational path that will lead to peace, and we blame the Reagan administration for the increase in tensions among our countries and the suffering to which our people are submitted. That is why we issue a call to the Costa Rican people to play a positive role in the achievement of peace in Central America [2-3 minute passage indistinct].

FMLN CLAIMS GARCIA LIES TO HIDE SETBACKS

PA082010 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] In view of the undeniable advance of the FMLN, the lying committee of the armed forces headed by Garcia has no other resource but to continue lying to the national and international press and to the people, although, we may add, Garcia and Coprefa [the Armed Forces Press Committee] no longer fool anybody.

Now they talk of an Operation Cleanup plan in the northern sector of Morazan and La Union Departments, where Coprefa claims to have inflicited hundreds of casualties on our forces and to have destroyed several guerrilla camps. The Operation Cleanup to which Garcia refers was limited to the arrival of special battalions in towns the FMLN has already abandoned on 29 November after having successfully gained its objectives.

What really happened was that the dictatorship's special forces were hit hard as they mobilized in the area, as was the case on the military route, where the Atonal Battalion suffered over 30 dead and several wounded in a guerrilla ambush.

What General Garcia is incapable of doing on the battlefront he claims to do by telling lie after lie to reporters. The paper operation launched by the dictatorship in the northern part of La Union was defeated by our people in arms. General Garcia can continue lying all he wants, but he will not be able to change the real situation on the battlefield.

HAVANA CITES CHARGE OF 'SLAUGHTER' IN MORAZAN

PA081800 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] The Salvadoran military has slaughtered civilians in the cantons of Calavera and (Estancia), Morazan Department, Radio Venceremos, the FMLN's official station, has charged. Elements of the Atonal and Atlacatl Battalions participated in this mass slaughter. They and the members of the Juan Ramon Belloso Battalion trained in anti-guerrilla warfare in the United States.

According to the station, those responsible for this massacre are Col Jaime Ernesto Flores and Lt Col Domingo Monterrosa. The station recalled that Flores is responsible for the slaughter of 1,000 peasants in Morazan Department in December 1981.

Radio Venceremos also charged that guerrilla actions have taken place in the Department of Cabanas and Cuscatlan, including successful sabotage in El Carmen.

The station also announced that last Saturday, during the occupation of the town of Oratorio de Concepcion in Cuscatlan Department, the insurgents seized 22 rifles, over 11,000 rounds of ammunition, medicine and other supplies. In addition, the Salvadoran military sustained 47 casualties and the FMLN captured 15 prisoners.

GUAZAPA HILL GUERRILLAS REPORTS ON OPERATIONS

PA082000 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Report from Guazapa Hill by Commander Misael Gallardo, dated 5 December -- read by announcer]

[Text] On 1 December, guerrilla squads under Companeros Caifas and Ernesto eliminated enemy posts. At 0530 that day, our forces annihilated a post at KM 40 on Nueva Street -- which leads to Suchitoto -- and another post at the San Francisco sugar mill, Aguilares Municipality.

At 0500 on 2 December, a guerrilla squad under Companero Baltazar eliminated an enemy position in Manguito, also on Nueva Street. As a result of these operations, the enemy had three casualties.

On 3 December, a guerrilla column under Companeros Jaime and Miguel seized the (Las Cartitas) canton, Aguilares Municipality. This action took place at 0330. There was a meeting with the townspeople. At 0430, the enemy showed up and after 20 minutes of fighting our forces withdrew without any problem, inflicting an undetermined number of casualties.

Our revolutionary army achieved another victory on 4 December when a guerrilla column under Commander (Dimas Rojas) and Companeros Ivan and Francisco initiated the operation called "Companeros (Amilcar and Montiel)," which consisted of seizing the town of Oratorio de Concepcion, only 12 km from San Salvador, and attacking three nearby enemy bases.

The operation began at 0000. By 0350, we had already reached our military objectives. The following is a list of what we recovered: 22 military rifles, identified as 11 G-3's, 6 M-16's, 3 Czechoslovak rifles and 2 M-1 carbines. The FMLN also recovered 11,346 cartridges for M-16, G-3 and Czechoslovak rifles, along with 86 clips for G-3 and M-16 rifles, a large amount of medicine, surgery equipment, an operating table, and a large amount of war materiel -- uniforms, webbing, knapsacks and other items.

The enemy had 47 casualties, including 15 soldiers and 10 paramilitary elements killed, 15 soldiers and paramilitary elements wounded, and 7 soldiers captured. The soldiers taken prisoner in the town of Oratorio de Conception are Sgt Manuel de Jesus Gonzalez Rojas and soldier Israel Rosales Hernandez, from the 5th Regiment, headquartered in the city of Cojutepeque. The paramilitary prisoners are Jose Luis Sanchez, Jorge Alberto Geron Rodriguez, Faustino Guzman Gonzales, Jose Roberto Montiel Sanchez and Miguel Angel Canales.

Companeros Camilo and Hugo fell in the attack on the enemy headquarters. Companeros Henry and Miguel were wounded.

At 0430, our forces withdraw after holding meetings and distributing propaganda. The enemy did not send reinforcements.

FMLN LISTS CAPTURED ARMS, ENEMY CASUALTIES

PA081918 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Here is a report to inform our people of the results to date of our national military compaign, which is still underway:

Since 10 October, the day on which the campaign began, the FMLN has recovered the following from the enemy: 252 M-16 rifles, 133 G-3 rifles, 78 Czech rifles, a lot of 73 rifles containing both M-16's and G-3's, 18 carbines, 7 Garands [M-1 rifles], 5 .22-cal rifles, 2 Fal rifles, 2 Mauser submachineguns and 1 Mauser rifle, making a total of 571 rifles that we have taken from Garcia.

We have also captured the following supporting weapons: 13 M-79 grenade launchers, 5 M-60 machineguns, 2 .50 cal machineguns, 2 60-mm mortars, 4 81-mm mortars, 2 120-mm mortars and 3 90-mm cannon, totalling 31 supporting weapons.

In our national military campaign, we have recovered 483 rounds for supporting weapons and 147,508 cartridges of various calibers. So far, we have inflicted 1,040 casualties, both dead and wounded, on the dictatorship's forces. On the battlefields and at enemy positions occupied by our forces, the FMLN has also captured 270 prisoners of war.

GUATEMALA

PRESIDENT RIOS MONTT APPROVES 1983 BUDGET

PA080400 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 7 Dec 82

[Excerpts] At a Cabinet meeting, President Efrain Rios Montt approved the 1983 budget which will become effective on 1 January. The budget totals 1,314,252,823 quetzals. The budget will have a deficit estimated at 370 million quetzals which will be covered with Treasury bonds for the same amount. This measure has also been approved.

The capital income includes loans from several international financing entities.

The Agency for International Development has provided 20,063,311 quetzals; the Central American Bank of Economic Integration 40,047,389; the Inter-American Development Bank 52,148,600; the World Bank 24,947,561; the Societe Generale Banque of France 30 million; and the issue of Treasury bonds for 370 million quetzals.

The capital income is estimated at 545,003,796 quetzals. The operating budget is estimated at 650,831,162 quetzals and the capital expenses budget is 447,183,642 quetzals.

The budget for operating expenses is broken down as follows: judicial branch 8,291,060; Presidency of the republic 26,339,796; Foreign Ministry 10,311,947; Government Ministry 49,261,425; Defense Ministry 117,355,559; Finance Ministry 29,239,707; Education Ministry 129,618,665; Public Health Ministry 79,381,158; Labor Ministry 2,912,170; Economy Ministry 5,204,899; Agriculture Ministry 31,538,820 and Communications Ministry 50,252,623.

The budget for capital expenses which includes direct investment and national reconstruction programs includes the following: Presidency of the republic 57,161,545; Defense Ministry 25,168,536; Finance Ministry 44,026,949; Education Ministry 9,133,507; Public Health Ministry 21,656,197; Labor Ministry 389,000; Agriculture Ministry 45,566,547; and Communications 244,081,361.

The public debt amounts to 216,238,019 quetzals, 170 million of which constitutes the domestic debt and more than 45 million the foreign debt. This budget includes an expense of more than 144 million for interest and commissions and only 71.5 million to pay off the debt principal.

The decree authorizing the issue, negotiation and placing of the bonds for 370 million quetzals notes that these funds are specifically earmarked to cover the 1983 budget. The bonds will earn 13 percent interest when negotiated in the country and 15 percent when negotiated abroad. The bank will receive 1.5 percent when it acquires the bonds and as long as they remain in bank hands.

This bond issue will cover the 1983 budget deficit. This deficit goes against IMF recommendations to developing countries like Guatemala which were asked to correct their economic maladjustments.

According to the IMF recommendations, monetary restrictions must continue to be the pivotal element of the country's economic policies in the struggle against inflation. The IMF adds that budget discipline and deficit reduction must be applied more decidedly. In addition, local economic circles noted that covering the country's budget deficit with a bond issue will inevitably result in a dangerously high inflation rate because it implies a monetary issue at a time when there is a drop in production.

REBEL CLAIMS CIVIL MILITIAS FORMATION DECEPTIVE

PA090309 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] The creation of civil militias in Guatemala is a political maneuver by the Guatemalan regime to deceive the public, (Pedro Siz), member of the Guatemalan Revolutionary National Unity, has told this station. (Siz), who is also a member of the Armed People's Revolutionary Organization, added that the government is uselessly determined to convince the international public that the Guatemalan guerrillas lack popular support.

HONDURAS

FOREIGN SECRETARY ON RELATIONS WITH NICARAGUA

PA090337 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Dec 82 p 4

[By Jose Danilo Izaguirre]

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica said yesterday that charges are being constantly received about incidents on our borders that have been provoked from Nicaraguan territory. He said these provocations harm our sovereignty and territorial integrity, and that protests are being filed through the appropriate diplomatic channels and investigations are being carried out to clarify the incidents.

He said that in some cases the Sandinist government rejects the protests of our government, while in other cases it is taking steps to carry out the appropriate investigations.

He said bilateral relations have substantially improved, and that he hopes this situation will continue so there will be a reestablishment of a climate of detente based on a policy of peace such as that promoted by the Honduran Government.

The official said that former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez will be invited to visit Honduras in the near future, since he is viewed as a statesman with great democratic convictions who can contribute to the easing of tensions in Central America and the establishment of democratic and pluralistic governments, two objectives for which Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova works.

He denied that Honduras is participating in alliances with El Salvador and Guatemala through their armies to contain the conflicts in those countries. He added that our government only participates in alliances that promote the reestablishment of democratic institutions and an effective peace in the area.

Referring to the delimiting of the border between Honduras and El Salvador, he said the negotiations are being speeded up so that we can uphold the integrity of our sovereignty very soon. These actions have been carried out by the joint commission. Nevertheless, in recent days the Salvadorans have shown some resistance to reaching quick solutions.

ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER SHARON CONTINUES VISIT

Speaks to Reporters

PA081425 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1315 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Interview with Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon at San Isidro Market in Tegucigalpa -- Sharon's answers in Hebrew with sentence by sentence translation into Spanish -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] What is your impression of your visit to the country's leading sales center? [Speaking to unidentified person, reporter says, "I was remarking to the gentleman that he is the first high-ranking official to visit this place."]

[Answer] I am the son of a small nation like Honduras, whose people are limited in number. We are two peoples who love freedom, who want to live in peace. I have come here to strengthen the ties between the peoples of Honduras and Israel. We think that small nations must help each other.

[Words indistinct] with warmth, with friendship, with cordiality. [Words indistinct] of the country, like the people. I am happy to be here among the Honduran people (?who are) a kind, friendly people and I feel at home.

[Question] [Words indistinct] news dispatches published today and through the various teletypes, criticized General Sharon's visit, specifically the visit to Honduras, saying that it was a sort of mission on behalf of the foreign relations department to creat consulates and embassies in Central America.

[Answer] The purpose is to tighten ties of cooperation (?between) the Honduran and Isareli people.

Meets with Suazo, Alvarez

PA081958 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon met today with the nation's highest authorities, including President Roberto Suazo Cordova; armed forces chief Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez; Edgardo Paz Barnica, secretary of state for foreign affairs; and Col Jose Serra Hernandez, secretary of state for national defense and public security.

Security measures for his meetings with these officials were extremely strict, although it was learned that Minister Sharon visited the San Isidro Market in Comayaguela without much security.

BRIEFS

VISA AGREEMENT WITH URUGUAY -- Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica and Uruguayan Ambassador in Honduras Julian Olasuaga yesterday signed a bilateral agreement eliminating the visa requirement. The measure will affect diplomatic, official and regular passports. [Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Dec 82 PA]

NICARAGUA

SANDINISTS REOPEN BORDER AFTER 48-HOUR CLOSURE

PA090305 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0034 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] Liberia, Costa Ria, 8 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan border was reopened today by the Sandinist authorities, who had kept it closed for more than 48 hours. The border immigration and customs posts operated during the day until 1600 Central American time (2200 GMT), allowing vehicles that had been stopped since last Monday to cross.

The Costa Rican authorities claim they were not given any explanation regarding the closure or opening of the border by Nicaragua. In the capital of San Jose, unofficial circles termed the measure a reprisal by the Sandinists for the closure last weekend ordered by Costa Rica on the occasion of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's visit.

'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ATTACK' IN JALAPA REPELLED

PA081435 Managua International Service in English 0300 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Another counterrevolutionary attack was repelled by the Sandinist Peoples Army, this time in (?Chusli), within the District of Jalapa, on Nicaragua's northern border. These aggressors suffered a considerable number of casualties.

Ironically, this new attack occurred at a time that Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon visits to Honduras. As it usually occurs, this attack against the population of northern Nicaragua was carried out by armed groups from Honduran territory [words indistinct] fired against military borderguards from a motor vehicles [as heard]

This information was confirmed by Commander Manuel Salvatierra, chief of the Nicaraguan borderguard troops. Salvatierra also said that an unidentified airplane had been flying over the city of Ocotal, north of Managua, obviously engaged in espionage activities. There have been five of these incursions up until now, he added.

Counterrevolutionary attacks from Honduras have increased since last Friday when members of the Socialist International were visiting Managua.

It seems that the northern area of the Department of Nueva Segovia has been chosen as imperialism's target in the war of terror it is waging against Nicaragua. This confirms a statement made in Mexico last week by the former Argentine security officer Hector Frances. But in spite of this silent war of terror, the Nicaraguan people will be celebrating tonight, December 7, the Purisima fiesta, that is, the eve of the Catholic holiday of the Immaculate Conception, which is a happy event in Nicaragua, a long-established tradition that is celebrated with prayers and songs, [word indistinct] and sweet lemons and that not even counterrevolutionary wars can keep it from flourishing.

COMMANDER WARNS OF INTENSIFICATION OF AGGRESSION

PA071605 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Dec 82

[Text] Commander Manuel Salvatierra, head of the Las Segovias Military Zone on the northern border, has warned that the counterrevolutionary groups that act against Nicaragua from Honduran territory will increase their attacks in the next few days. Salvatierra said this escalation became evident last week, when the most violent clashes so far this year took place in this area of Nueva Segovia.

He explained that in this sector -- a broken border line approximately 250 km long, located between (Guanito) in Nueva Segovia and San Jose de Cusmapa in Esteli, some 290 km northwest of Managua -- there is a counterrevolutionary force of some 2,000 members in Honduran territory who are distributed in camps holding between 120 and 130 men.

Salvatierra said this distribution of counterrevolutionary forces is in accordance with a general plan of aggression scheduled for the months of November and December of this year. However,he said, the plan has not been put into effect. He added that the counterrevolutionaries operate in groups of 20 or 30, equipped with U.S.-made communications equipment, machineguns, mortars and rocket launchers. He said that the counterrevolutionaries in the area are trying to weaken the revolution and to destabilize the economy by spreading terror. Acting from Honduran soil, they are trying to guarantee the takeover of Nicaraguan territory in the border area.

The high-ranking military officer stressed that it would be impossible for these groups to act in such large numbers and with such technical capacity, information and logistical support without the help of the United States and the Honduran Army.

Here is the statement by Commander Salvatierra, giving more information:

[Begin recording] Based on our analysis of the enemy and on the military knowledge we have acquired so far, we observe two important things:

1. It would be impossible for these forces to act in such large numbers, with sophisticated military techniques, and with the military training they have using only their own resources and efforts. There is evident support from other forces. We understand that the most important forces and support they have is from the U.S. Government, with military instruction, military techniques, military training and the military information it provides, plus logistic support and supplies.

2. It would be impossible for such a large force to operate either in Honduran or Nicaraguan territory along the border, without the knowledge of certain sectors of the Honduran Government and Army. This would be impossible. We say this publicly, and we have said this to the Honduran military officers to whom we have spoken on a number of occasions.

Therefore, we must understand that the military activities taking place along the border in the northwestern sector are part of a general plan of aggression against Nicaragua and that their forces have been deployed in accordance with this plan. It is not the same to have 2,000 men concentrated in one place as it is to have 2,000 men deployed along the border, since each of these activities would involve a different tactical combat maneuver.

Thus, we have come to the conclusion that they are in the first phase of aggression. It is evident from all the information we have that this aggression will be more violently intensified in the next few days. [end recording]

These were the remarks of Commander Salvatierra, head of the military sector of Las Segovias on the border with Honduras. While describing the counterrevolutionary activities in the sector, Salvatierra stressed that the area of Jalapa, one of the main centers of activity in the region, produces 10 percent of the country's basic grains, over 100,000 quintals of coffee and high-quality tobacco.

He explained that the counterrevolutionary groups are mainly composed of former Somozist guards and foreign mercenaries, who practice a real policy of terrorism in their attacks, violently killing the peasant population.

The last attack in that sector took place on Sunday, 5 December, near the zone of (Loma Oscura), Nueva Segovia Department. A counterrevolutionary group of 200-250 members attacked with mortars and rifles. On Saturday, 4 December, at (Cerro del Aguila), which is also located in the area, 800 meters from the border in Nicaraguan territory, counterrevolutionaries shot at a Sandinist People's Army observation post without causing casualties or damage. The most important clash in recent days took place last 22 and 23 November, when Nicaraguan military forces made a 500-man counterrevolutionary unit withdraw into Honduran territory after they tried to seize Jalapa. The fighting lasted nearly 36 hours and ended when the attackers returned to Honduras.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCES 10-14 JAN NONALIGNED MEETING

PA080450 Managua International Service in English 0300 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Nicaragua's deputy foreign minister, Nora Astorga, confirmed in a press conference today that the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Nonaligned Nations will meet in Managua from 10 to 14 January.

She noted that this event is important not only for Nicaragua but for the entire Nonaligned Movement as it will be the first meeting of the nonaligned nations to deal specifically with Latin America where there is greatest tension.

The deputy minister also reported that to date there has been no answer to the letters of protest sent by Nicaragua to the Government of Honduras concerning the continual incursions into Nicaragua territory by the Honduran-based counterrevolutionaries forces. On the same subject, she added that Nicaragua has taken steps to set up a high-level meeting between Nicaragua and Honduras considering that only those nations will be able to decrease tensions on their mutual border. The Nicaraguan official stated that Nicaragua is also interested in establishing a dialogue at the highest level with representatives of the Reagan administration despite the American President's recent Central American tour aimed at isolating the Nicaraguan revolution and despite the fact that none of this country's formal letters of protest of the American Government have been answered.

HAVANA CITES CUADRA CHAMORRO STATEMENT IN LIMA

PA090311 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] Nicaraguan Finance Minister Joaquin Cuadra Chamorro has charged in Lima that the United States is supplying weapons to more than 4,000 former Somozist guardsmen who are preparing to invade Nicaragua from Honduran territory. He said these weapons reach the counterrevolutionaries thanks to the $19-million CIA contribution. The Nicaraguan minister stressed that his country's popular militias have developed significantly, and that the people are up in arms ready to defend their revolution.

Cuadra Chamorro described as positive the meeting that he held with Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry, who reaffirmed the support of his government for the Mexican-Venezuelan proposal for a top-level meeting between Honduras and Nicaragua to solve the conflict between these two Central American countries.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS -- Two bilateral agreements, Nicaragua-Belize and Panama-Belize, for scientific and technical cooperation were signed at the Foreign Ministry on Monday afternoon. Panamanian Deputy Health Minister Gladys de Lagos, Belizean Health Minister Assad Shoman and Nicaraguan Health Minister Lea Guido signed the agreements. The ministers committed their countries to cooperate in training and medical assistance. These new agreements will be supported by regional funds from the Pan American Health Organization and the WHO. [Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Dec 82 p 6 PA]

GRANMA VIEWS CRUISE MISSILES IN SOUTH AFRICA

PA090202 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] The Cuban paper GRANMA [date not indicated] states that the installation of cruise missiles in South Africa is an act of unforeseeable consequences in the warmongering escalation of the United States and South Africa against the territories of Angola, Mozambique and other frontline states.

GRANMA adds that with this step an effort is being made to impose an element of force in the negotiations over Namibian independence. It adds that the multimillion-dollar credit that the IMF granted to the South African regime will serve to complete the installation of the missiles and reinforce the racist regime's military strength in its role as spearhead of U.S. interests in Southern Africa.

The newspaper stresses that the African governments' rejection of the U.S. attempt to condition Namibian independence to the withdrawal of Cuban internationalist troops from Angola is being answered with a crazy and brutal warmongering escalation in the region.

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S MX MISSILE DEFEAT NOTED

FL081301 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] President Reagan suffered a serious defeat Tuesday when the House of Representatives rejected a government request for nearly $1 billion for the production of the first five MX intercontinental nuclear missiles. The debate in the House was preceded by Reagan's intense efforts urging members over the phone to vote in favor of the request.

During the debate there was harsh criticism of the U.S. President's arms policy, especially at a time when tens of millions of U.S. citizens and their families have nothing to eat because of unemployment.

President Reagan proposes to deploy 100 of those nuclear missiles in the state of Wyoming beginning in 1986. This would cost approximately $26 billion, but many experts believe it would cost not less than $40 billion.

RODRIGUEZ DISCUSSES CENTRAL AMERICAN SITUATION

PA081727 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Carlos Rafel Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, told the Mexican weekly PROCESO that the United States has no valid alternatives for solving Latin America's problems. Rodriguez stressed that democratic changes of profound social importance are currently taking place in Nicaragua but that, nonetheless, this Central American nation has become the target of U.S. aggression, as if it were undertaking a socialist revolution.

According to the Cuban leader, the Nicaraguan process has confirmed the problems encountered on the paths to revolution, since, as in the past, there are situations in Latin America at present as a result of which it is impossible to advance toward democracy except through the very broad armed participation of the people. In this regard, he expressed his conviction that in future, those peoples who are currently undertaking revolutionary processes will see socialist achievements, even if that prospect does not materialize on a short-term basis.

Commenting on the peace proposals for solving the Central American crisis, the Cuban vice president said that the problem is that U.S. President Ronald Reagan and his team believe, or try to believe, that the borders between capitalism and communism pass through Central America today.

Rodriguez said that in response to Reagan's propaganda, Cuba might challenge the United States to accept the initiation of peace negotiations for Central America, for this would reveal who is really trying to destabilize the area.

As for Honduras, Rodriguez said that this country, particularly Gen Gustavo Alvarez, its military chief, is playing a role that might be described as sinister, not only in terms of Nicaragua but of Latin America as a whole.

An odious role has also fallen to Costa Rica, Rodriguez stressed, because the Costa Rican Government has forgotten its national traditions and has become a U.S. policy instrument in the area.

ALMEIDA MEETS WITH OFFICIAL IN KHARTOUM

FL081248 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Cuban Council of State Vice President Juan Almeida has made a technical stop in Khartoum, capital of Sudan, where he was welcomed by Minister of State for Foreign Relations Mustafa Maydani. In a meeting held by Almeida and Maydani at the air terminal in Khartoum, the two leaders discussed some topics dealing with the international situation and the seventh Nonaligned Movement summit conference, which will be held in New Delhi, India, next March.

In his present tour of African countries, Cuban Vice President Juan Almeida has already visited Tanzania and Ethiopia.

AGRICULTURE VICE MINISTER VISITS ANGOLAN PROVINCE

FL081648 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Francisco Gonzalez, Cuban vice minister of agriculture and member of the Central Committee, toured the northern province of Cabinda last weekend during an official visit to Angola. Gonzalez told the local press that he is studying with Angolan officials the way to strengthen bilateral relations in the agricultural field. He visited Cabinda to make an evaluation of this region's forestry potential.

CASTRO SENDS GREETINGS TO LAOS, ALBANIA

Lao Anniversary

BK081516 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Greetings messages from the Republic of Cuba: to Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and Comrade Souphanouvong, president of the LPDR:

Dear comrades, on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the establishment of the LPDR, I would like to extend warm, fraternal congratulations to the LPRP, the government and the Lao people. Over the past several years, the Lao people, under the leadership of the LPRP, have succeeded in advancing along the path of socialist transformation and in defending the gains of the revolution.

Our people would like to share with the Lao people their satisfaction over the above success. On this occasion, I am convinced that our relations of friendship and cooperation based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism will continue to develop in the interests of our peoples and for the cause of socialism and peace.

[Signed] Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba.

On the same occasion, Comrade Isidoro Octavio Malmierca, minister of foreign relations of the Republic of Cuba, also sent a greetings message to Comrade Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the LPDR.

Albania Liberation Day

AU081532 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 1 Dec 82 p 3

[Text] Fidel Castro Ruz, chairman of the Council of State and Government of the Republic of Cuba, in his telegram addressed to Ramiz Alia and Adil Carcani writes: On the occasion of the 38th anniversary of Albania's liberation it is my pleasure to send you our cordial greetings and wishes for the Albanian people's well-being and prosperity on behalf of the people and government of the Republic of Cuba.

WESTERN NATIONS STAND ON LAW OF SEA SCORED

FL081355 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] The law of the sea convention has a high historic significance, only comparable to the creation itself of the United Nations, and constitutes a valuable contribution to the preservation of world peace, Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Pelegrin Torras, who heads our country's delegation to the third conference on that important topical subject, has stated.

Torras criticized the stand of some superpowers which attempt to ignore the current legal norms governing the use and exploitation of ocean resources. The Cuban vice minister recalled that this is the same position adopted by some developed countries in the western world, bringing to a halt the so-called North-South negotiations for a new international economic order.

BRIEFS

PUBLICATIONS CONTRACT WITH PERU -- During the first Havana 82 International Book Fair, Cuba and Peru signed a purchase-sales contract in the field of publications. The contract was signed this morning at the Palace of Fine Arts by Jose Manuel Castro, director of Cuban publications, and (Armado Benitez Ordonez), managing director of Lima's La Familia Publishing House, S.A. The agreement calls for the Peruvian party to purchase Cuban publications valued at $50,000 annually. This is the first agreement of its kind ever signed by a Peruvian publishing house with Cuba. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1917 GMT 7 Dec 82 FL]

PUBLICATIONS TRADE COOPERATION -- The Soviet Union's International Book Distribution Enterprise has signed a trade cooperation agreement with the Ediciones Cubanas Publishing Enterprise amounting to some 7.5 million rubles. Another agreement was signed with Poland's (Artolan) Publications and still another with Bulgaria. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Dec 82 FL]

BARBADOS

TULL MEETS WITH CHINESE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER

FL090025 Bridgetown CANA in English 2358 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Dec. 8, CANA -- Barbados' foreign affairs minister, Louis Tull, and the Chinese vice-minister in the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Han Xu, met here last weekend for discussions on a wide range of matters of bilateral interest, an official release here said. The vice minister, who had been one of Mr Tull's hosts during his recent visit to China, brought him up-to-date on some of the issues that were discussed during the trip, the government release said.

Mr Xu, who was on his way to Jamaica to sign the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, explained that although the convention had certain shortcomings, the Chinese Government, whose interests run parallel to many interests of the majority of developing countries, will be supporting the convention.

Mr Tull also took the opportunity to brief the vice minister on discussions at the recent Caribbean Community (Caricom) heads of government summit in Jamaica.

GRENADA

BILATERAL COOPERATION TALKS WITH CUBA OPEN

FL072358 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2102 GMT 7 Dec 82

[Text] Speaking in St Georges, Jorge Risquet, member of our party Politburo and Secretariat, has reiterated Cuba's willingness to cooperate with the social project which the Grenadian Government is carrying out. Risquet made the statement at [word indistinct], headquarters of the Grenadian Government, where the third meeting on the Cuba-Grenada cooperation program was convened. The Cuban delegation has come here with a willingness to cooperate fully with Grenada's social project to establish a socially advanced program in a small country, Risquet said.

Bernard Coard, Grenada's minister of planning, finance and trade, said that Cuban assistance has been of enormous fundamental importance in the development of an independent economic base in Grenada, such as in the case of the single most important construction project in the country, the Point Salines international airport.

JAMAICA

REPORTAGE ON UNITED NATIONS LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE

NOTIMEX Discusses Law

PA081937 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Dec 82

[NOTIMEX report]

[Text] The United States, the USSR, Japan, Poland, Argentina, Israel and seven other countries oppose the ratification of the Law of the Sea Convention upon which the Third World nations base their hopes of making profitable use of their marine property.

Several of these nations -- Japan, the United States and the USSR -- refuse to accept this law because they stand to lose ground in their exploitation of other nations' fishing resources. Spain, Argentina and Venezuela, which also oppose ratification of the agreement, don't want to sign it because of their border problems with other countries.

The Law of the Sea Convention was drafted during 10 years of arduous negotiations, in an effort to regulate the nations' behavior within the framework of a new legal system governing the use and exploitation of the sea and its resources. The document, which was approved in April last year by the third UN Law of the Sea Conference, involved all aspects of this issue, including the passage of ships and submarines; the exploitation of live resources, hydrocarbons and other minerals; marine pollution; and scientific research.

In addition, the document incorporates legal innovations in connection with the exclusive economic zone and the international regulations on sea beds located outside all nations' jurisdiction. These beds have been viewed as mankind's common heritage.

A few days ago, the ambassadors of more than 150 countries met in Montego Bay, Jamaica, to witness the formalization of the new international law of the sea.

Throughout the negotiations on establishing a new law of the sea, Mexico's participation has been relevant. In the first two law of the sea conferences in 1958 and 1970, the Mexican delegation led by Alfonso Garcia-Robles, ambassador emeritus and Nobel Peace Prize Winner, kept the United States from imposing the 6-mile territorial limit formula.

In those debates, Garcia Robles geared his diplomatic efforts toward gaining recognition for the 12-mile territorial waters concept that was proposed by the Third World countries. He also helped to establish an exclusive 200-mile fishing zone.

The ratification of the Law of the Sea Convention is vital for the Third World countries. However, Confemar [Law of the Sea Conference] now faces a harsher stand from the United States, the United Kingdom and the FRG. These countries, outside the treaty's provisions, seek to nullify the original spirit of the Law of the Sea Convention by means of miniconventions,

For this reason, Ambassador Emeritus Jorge Castaneda exhorted the countries that are attending the final Confemar session to sign and ratify the agreement without delay, so that this historic international document can be implemented as rapidly as possible.

Australia Warns Against Violations

FL081121 Bridgetown CANA in English 1107 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Montego Bay, Dec 8, CANA-REUTER -- Australia said yesterday it would sign the United Nations Law of the Sea Convention and warned that any radical departure from its provisions would lead to new uncertainties.

"Whatever may be the limitations of the present text, it provides the only secure and comprehensive basis on which the resources of the oceans can be exploited, ships and aircraft can enjoy rights of navigation and overflight, research can be pursued and the environment protected in a satisfactory way" Ambassador Keith Brennan said. He was speaking on the second day of the final session of the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference here. It is the result of nine years of negotiations.

Alluding to the opposition of some countries, especially the United States, to the treaty's rules governing seabed mining, he said: "If there is any radical departure by states from the provisions of this convention, the disorders of the sixties will return in aggravated form to plague us again."

Mr Brennan added: "It is beyond question that any attempt to exploit the resources of the sea bed beyond national jurisdiction outside the convention would give rise to the most serious political and legal consequences."

Under the treaty, the resources of the oceans beyond national jurisdiction are declared to be common heritage of mankind and may be exploited by private companies only under licence from an international seabed authority that will also conduct mining operations of its own.

Ambassador Brennan told the gathering representing more than 100 countries "it is with great satisfaction that I am able to inform this meeting that Australia will not only be signing the final act of the conference, but will also be signing the convention itself."

The final act is a non-binding summary of what the conference has achieved since opening in December 1973 and is expected to be signed even by countries that do not intend adhering now to the convention itself.

The Australian envoy said that, as an island continent, his country was heavily dependent on trade, had a vital interest in the resolution of the doubts and uncertainties that previously existed concerning ocean law and in the development of new concepts to restore order and rectify the shortcomings of the past.

He called the achievements of the Law of the Sea Conference "historic" and expressed regret that the principle of consensus, which operated over the years, broke down in the final (?session).

"It is our sincere hope that in due course consensus will be restored," he said. "It is our hope that ways can be found to make the convention acceptable to those countries which have particular problems. My delegation continues to believe that order will be achieved on the oceans only through the medium of a widely ratified comprehensive convention."

Ambassador Brennan concluded with an appeal to friendly governments, which he did not identify, not to embark on any exploration or exploitation activities outside the convention.

"I hope that before any decision in that sense is made, an assessment will be undertaken, at the highest national level, of the consequences of any such action.

"Mining the seabed outside the convention would be highly divisive and the country concerned would incur the hostility of the bulk of the world," he said.

Ecuador Will Not Sign

PA090314 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Ecuador will not sign the UN Law of the Sea Convention at the world meeting currently being held in Jamaica, where Ecuador is represented by (Diego Paredes). The convention which was approved in April within the framework of the United Nations, reorganizes a 12-mile territorial sea and a 188-mile [as heard] exclusive economic zone for littoral countries, as well as a number of rights over seabeds.

Ecuador upholds the idea of a 200-mile territorial sea.

Foreign Minister Luis Valencia did not rule out the possibility that Ecuador will sign the document, which will be available for signing by all countries until 9 December 1984, that is, a period of 24 months.

Valencia stressed that Ecuador will watch the evolution of the law of the sea and particularly the work concerning seabeds.

The Law of the Sea Convention is supported by the Third World countries and opposed by big economic and fishing powers.

UK Still Seeking Changes

FL081940 Bridgetown CANA in English 1856 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Montego Bay, Jamaica, Dec 8, CANA -- Britain told the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference today it would not sign a wide-ranging ocean law convention here later this week but would first seek changes in its controversial seabed mining provisions.

"The convention remains open for signature for two years and there is time for revision before the United Kingdom need take a final decision on signature," Ambassador John Powell-Jones said.

Speaking on the third day of the conference's final five-day session, due to end on Friday with a formal signing ceremony, he said much of the convention, negotiated over the past nine years, was acceptable.

"But the provisions relating to the deep seabed including the transfer of technology are unacceptable to my own government, and a number of other industrialized countries share our misgivings," he said, alluding the United States, West Germany, and several other nations.

"We need to obtain significant and satisfactory improvements in the text of these provisions and wish, in the months ahead, to explore with others the prospects for such improvements."

The British envoy's speech echoed a statement made in the House of Commons last Thursday when Malcolm Rifkind, parliamentary under secretary at the foreign and commonwealth office, outlined the British position regarding the convention, which regulates virtually all uses of the seas and their resources.

Mr Powell-Jones said the convention, expected to be signed on Friday by up to 80 countries, with others likely to follow later, "must not be used to divide states."

He indicated that efforts to obtain changes in the treaty would be made in a preparatory commission, tentatively scheduled to begin work in Kingston, Jamaica, next March.

The commission is charged with drafting a detailed mining code and establishing an international seabed authority to control all mining, both by private consortia and by the authority's own operating arm, called the enterprise.

Britain will be entitled to take part in the work of the commission as non-voting observer by virtue of signing the so-called final act of the conference on Friday. This is [a] non-binding record of the work of the conference since it began in December 1973. The United States and other countries that will not adhere to the convention are also expected to sign the final act.

Lack of a vote in the commission need not be a major handicap, observers said, since the commission is expected to work largely on the basis of consensus, like the Law of the Sea Conference itself.

The only major ballotting during the nine years of the conference took place in New York last April 30 when the convention was adopted by '30 votes to four against, with 17 abstentions. The United States, Israel, Turkey and Venezuela cast the negative votes while Britain was among the abstainers.

The Soviet bloc also abstained at the time but the Soviet Union later said it would sign the convention.

In his speech, Mr Powell-Jones said: "We must try, starting with the preparatory commission, to build on what is generally agreed in the convention and seek cooperation between those who, today, have different perceptions of the convention and its various provisions.

"This session, when we sign the final act, is not the final conclusion...even though there may be deeply felt and divergent opinions it is our hope that the search for general agreement will continue."

Ambassador Powell-Jones said many of the convention's provisions were a restatement or codification of existing conventional and customary international law and state practice. This included articles concerning the right of innocent passage through the territorial sea defined under the convention as extending for a distance of 12 nautical miles without being subject to prior notification or authorisation by the coastal state.

The British envoy said other parts of the convention made more precise what was implicit or inherent in existing international law, while a third category of provisions broke new ground and sought to make new law.

The most obvious examples of the last, he said, were those that sought to give effect to the principle that the resources of the seabed beyond national jurisdiction were the common heritage of mankind.

Mr Powell-Jones said the legal position would be complicated if the convention entered into force without enjoying general acceptance.

But he stressed: "With regard to those provisions which express, codify or clarify existing law, the substantive norms which govern behaviour and define rights and duties will be the same for both parties and for non-parties even though the source of the norms, which is the basis of states obligations, may differ."

He added: "Until there is universality, we will need to seek accommodation between those who have adopted new conventional rules and those who act on the basis of existing law."

Observers said this appeared to conflict with [the] position of many supporters of the convention who argue that the treaty is an integral whole and that countries cannot pick and choose which of its provisions they will invoke.

The convention will not enter into force until a year after being ratified by 60 states -- a process expected to take several years.

Cyprus To Sign

FL082115 Bridgetown CANA in English 2022 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Montego Bay, Dec 8, CANA -- Cyprus said today it would become a party to the United Nations Sea Law Convention when it is opened for signature here on Friday.

Addressing the final session of the nine-year-old U.N. Law of the Sea Conference, Ambassador Andreas Jacovides, leader of the Cyprus delegation called the treaty a "victory not of individual states or of any particular group of states, but for reason, the rule of law and mankind as a whole."

He said Cyprus, which extended its territorial waters to 12 miles in 1964, was particularly pleased that this had been entrenched in the convention as a generally applicable rule.

As an island state, Cyprus had strenuously argued against attempts to "discriminate against and diminish the position of islands by creating artificially novel distinctions based on legal untenable considerations such as size, population, geographical location, etcetera," Mr Jacovides added.

Cyprus was therefore fully satisfied with the way this issue had been dealt with in the convention.

"My delegation particularly welcomes the provisions on protection and preservation of the marine environment, as well as the general provision...for the protection and jurisdiction over archaelogical and historial objects found at sea and, more specifically, within the contiguous zone," he added, referring to a 12-nautical mile strip beyond the 12-nautical mile territorial sea.

Turkey Against 12-Mile Limit

FL082125 Bridgetown CANA in English 2032 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Montego Bay, Dec 8, CANA -- Turkey, one of only four countries to vote against a United Nations Sea Law Convention when it was adopted last April, today said it would sign neither the convention nor the final act of the conference that drafted it.

The final act is a non-binding document recording the work of the conference that even most countries that decline to adhere to the convention intend signing at a closing ceremony here on Friday.

Addressing the final session of the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference, Ambassador Coskun Kirca of Turkey also said the 12 nautical mile territorial sea limit laid down in the convention could not be claimed against Turkey.

Turkey's difficulties with the convention stem largely from dispute with Greece concerning the Agean Sea, studded with Greek Islands that in places lie only a few miles from the Turkish coast.

Mr Kirca, who did not specificially refer to this in his speech, said: "Turkey, in the course of the preparatory stages of the conference as well as during the conference, has been a persistent objector to the 12-mile limit."

"As far as the semi-enclosed seas are concerned, the amendments submitted and the statements made by the Turkish delegations, manifest Turkey's consistent and unequivocal refusal to accept the 12-mile limit in such areas.

"In view of the above considerations, the 12-mile limit cannot be claimed vis-a-vis Turkey," he stated.

Explaining why his country would not sign the final act of the conference, Ambassador Kirca said the document contained a sentence stating that the conference took all its decisions by consensus.

This was misleading and presented Turkey with serious difficulties, he said. It was well known that Turkey expressly raised objections to a number of the convention's articles and submitted amendments, but never gave its consent to those provisions that did not accommodate Turkish views.

"Constantly, in view of the prejudicial working...Turkey regrets that it will not be able to sign the final act."

In addition to Turkey, the United States, Israel and Venezuela voted against the convention when it was adopted in New York last April 30 by 130 votes to four with 17 abstentions.

United States objections are based mainly on the conventions seabed mining provisions which it regards as prejudiced against private enterprise.

Soviet Minister Comments

FL082250 Bridgetown CANA in English 2225 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Montego Bay, Jamaica, Dec 8, CANA -- Jamaica and the Soviet Union have pledged to expand bilateral trade further on a mutually profitable basis, an official release said here. This was one of the decisions coming out of a meeting here between deputy prime minister, Hugh Shearer and the Soviet Union's Minister of the Merchant Marine, Mr. Timofey Borisovich Guzhenko, who is heading Moscow's delegation to the law of the sea signing session.

The two leaders recalled a recently concluded bauxite agreement between Jamaica and the Soviet Union under which the Russians will buy one million tonnes of bauxite per year from Jamaica over a seven-year period. The meeting was one of a series held by Mr Shearer, who is his country's alternate delegation chairman, with representatives of other U.N. member countries attending the session in this north coast resort town.

In their discussions, the Soviet minister also indicated that his country, which had abstained in the vote on the convention in New York in April, intended to sign the document on Friday when it will be opened for signature.

Mr Shearer said he was pleased at the Soviet Union's decision and looked forward to that country being an active participant in the implementation of the convention as it had been in the nine years of negotiations leading to its formulation, the release said.

Mr. Guzhenko, who paid tribute to the efforts of the Jamaica delegation in the negotiations, assured Mr. Searer that the Soviet Union would be very active in implementing and upholding the provisions of the convention.

Mr Shearer also met with chairman of the Federal Council of Yugoslavia, Dr. Vratusa, who was that country's first non-resident ambassador to Jamaica while stationed in New York as permanent representative to the United Nations.

The two men discussed some of the issues expected to be on the agenda for the Sixth U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD VI) to be held in Belgrade, the Yugoslav capital, in June next year.

Dr Vratusa also brought Mr. Shearer up to date on developments at the institute for public and private enterprises in Yugoslavia of which Jamaica is a member. The institute assists in the training of managers for public and private sector businesses in developing countries.

More Countries Cite Support

FL082301 Bridgetown CANA in English 2233 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Montego Bay, Jamaica, Dec 8, CANA -- Communist East Germany has joined other states in indicating that it will sign the Law of the Sea Convention on Friday, but took the opportunity to attack the United States and other industrialised nations who are opposed to the agreement in its present form.

Bernard Neugebauer said that East Germany was among those states whose deep-sea fisheries have had to shoulder considerable additional burdens since the introduction of economic zones.

He added that the effective exercise of its rights as a geographically disadvantaged state, as laid down in the convention, was therefore a matter of immediate economic importance to the GDR and [passage indistinct] other countries without regard for the interests of the developing countries and bent on profit-seeking and imperialist advantage, deny the convention their signatures."

"The German Democratic Republic will sign the final act of the convention and work to assure that the necessary prerequisites for the earliest possible entry into force of the convention will be created."

The United States and several other major industrialised countries, including West Germany and Britain, have said they will not sign the treaty, and the GDR's reference to "imperialism," is the communist blocs way of indicating the U.S. without use of its name.

Japanese delegate, Toru Nawagawa, said the conference had made an historic achievement by setting up a new international legal order for the oceans.

He said that although some provisions might have been improved, "the convention represents the best possible compromise the conference could have achieved (and) will serve the long-term and comprehensive interests of the world community."

While the new Japanese cabinet was unable to complete the necessary review for signing the convention at this conference, [words indistinct] its basic position that "the convention as whole merits its support and signature."

Nakagawa said adoption of the convention marked the beginning of a new era of workings to consolidate the new stable legal order for the oceans, and Japan would do its utmost [words indistinct].

Kenya's Wafula Wabuge said the convention comprises a package from which no state could legitimately and unilaterally make exception, let alone a parallel regime.

He felt that it ushered in a new era in international [passage indistinct] of the progressive development of international law, is the part which lays down rules for the sea beyond the limits of natural jurisdiction, particularly as regards exploitation of the resources of the international seabed for the benefit of all mankind."

Poland's Ryuszard Pospieszyaski said his country will sign the convention, which will significantly contribute to the maintenance [word indistinct] and strengthening of international peace and as it is well balanced and takes into account the legitimate interests of all states.

Poland is of the opinion that the convention will remove causes of many international disputes and cover many legal loopholes.

Sri Lanka sees the new convention as a monument to human understanding, ingenuity and restraint.

Hiran W. Jayewardene said that if no state finds all its provisions entirely pleasing, it cannot be denied that it brings substantial benefits of some kind to all.

He said the convention has the highest potential of any instrument in history to serve as the foundation for the maintenance of peace, social justice and good order.

It will achieve a new distribution of the oceans' wealth -- "not as economic aid or charity, but as a matter of legal right."

Speaking for the United Arab Emirates, Minister of Education Sa'id Salman said the convention reflects the reality of the international situation in its balance of rights and interests.

The United Republic of Tanzania is concerned over the unfortunate exclusion of important ocean areas, such as Antarctica, and the area known as the high seas, in the common heritage concept, but said it will sign the convention since it cannot afford to choose what to take and what to reject.

Tanzania called on the United States of America, to whome it said all concessions have been made, to again reflect on its actions as a wrong decision could have grave consequences.

Massamba Sharre, of Senegal, said his country was ready to sign and has established a national committee on the law of the sea to harmonise its national legislation with the new treaty.

Pedro Corte da Silva Pinto, of Portugal, said his country would also sign and, while Sweden has certain misgivings, it too, will sign since its over-riding concern was to contribute to the creation of an international legal order for the sea.

Guyana to Sign

FL090210 Kingston Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] Jamaica's Caricom partner, Guyana, one of the countries which will be signing the Law of the Sea Convention, defended in [word indistinct] its duty in calling [words indistinct] to sign the convention.

Guyana's Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson outlined his government's position on the convention. He said it represents a watershed in international relations:

[Begin Jackson recording] The convention demonstrates what is possible through international negotiations when they are conducted in good faith and when there is a shared concern among the peoples of the world in recognition of their common humanity and their desire to build appropriate regimes which can serve to fulfill their aspirations for justice and for equity.

It is now (?right), Mr President, to say that we live in an interdependent world. But just interdependence must not be an interdependence, I dare say, akin to the relationship between the master and the slave. Rather, I suggest that interdependence of which we all so (?easily) think must be one in which we are all ready to make adjustments in the pure knowledge that one person's gain is not necessarily another's loss. [end recording]

ARMY, LED BY BOUTERSE, TAKES 'ABSOLUTE CONTROL'

PA081447 Paris AFP in Spanish 1442 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 8 Dec (AFP) -- Since this morning the Suriname state radio has been broadcasting military music and communiques, reporting that Col Daysi Bouterse took absolute control of the country to "prevent chaos and bloodshed."

While the other radio stations remain silent, one of Bouterse's spokesmen said this morning that "the situation is tense, but calm. The army is in complete control of the situation."

The state radio also announced that schools were closed and parents were warned that their children must be kept at home.

According to observers, this new crisis in Suriname is the result of violent demonstrations by students at the University of Suriname, supported by national labor unions.

Government proposals to appease the students were turned down by the students and the labor unions.

Meanwhile, the military has announced that no student demonstrations will be permitted in Paramaribo and has ordered the police to repress any such demonstration.

A military-supported government was installed in Suriname in February 1980 after the overthrow of Henck Arron. That government has had to overcome five coup attempts.

Suriname, a former Netherlands colony, obtained its independence in November 1975.

Communications Cut

FL081920 Bridgetown CANA in English 1905 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] The Hague, Dec 8, CANA-REUTER -- Reports of trouble in the former Dutch colony of Suriname were followed today with an announcement by the military government that it had intervened to "prevent a bloodbath."

The Dutch news agency ANP reported that four buildings occupied by opposition radio stations, a newspaper and the headquarters of the Moederbond trade union were burned down and that several people had been arrested.

The Dutch Foreign Ministry said attacks on the buildings had taken place but had no further information.

ANP said that army chief Lieutenant-Colonel Daysi Bouterse had announced on radio that the army had "intervened to prevent a bloodbath" in the capital, Paramaribo, after the incidents, but it gave no details.

The radio broadcast a military communique describing the situation in the country as "calm but tense" and "completely under the control of the military." The radio was otherwise broadcasting only martial music.

ANP said Suriname's ruling council was meeting to discuss the events and that Colonel Bouterse was expected to make a further statement tonight.

The agency quoted the radio as saying that extra security measures were in force along the borders with Guyana, French Guyana and Brazil and that all schools were closed.

The Dutch agency added that telex and telephone communications with Suriname were broken off this morning.

Among the buildings destroyed by fire were those housing the radio stations ABC and Radika and the VRIJE STEM (FREE VOICE) newspaper.

Curfew Declared

FL082025 Bridgetown CANA in English 2017 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Dec 8, CANA -- Suriname's military rulers today announced a dusk-to-dawn curfew following reports of unrest and arson in the neighbouring South American state, diplomats here monitoring the state-owned SRS radio have reported. The curfew is being imposed from 7 p.m. until 4 a.m. said SRS, the only one of five Suriname radio stations still on the air.

The radio gave no clear picture today of what had happened in Suriname, although reporting the destruction of four buildings. It devoted most of the morning to a military music presentation, switching in the afternoon to pop music.

In a censored news report, SRS said two private radio stations -- Radica and ABC -- as well as the offices of a newspaper called "FREE VOICE" and the headquarters of the Moederbond trade union grouping had been destroyed.

In the Hague, the Dutch news agency ANP said the buildings had been destroyed by fire and that several people had been arrested. ANP said the Suriname army chief, Lieutenant-Colonel Daysi Bouterse, announced on radio that the army had "intervened to prevent a bloodbath" in the capital, Paramaribo, but it gave no details.

The unrest comes weeks after a confrontation between government and the Moederbond (Mother Union), which last month and in October called a series of strikes to pressure the government to resign and call general elections, postponed after a February 1980 coup.

The strike was called off after the trade union leaders were told about a number of government decisions that were to climax with the holding of elections.

The Suriname charge d'affaires here, Omar Botse, said he had had no official word from his government on the situation in the former Dutch colony. He said he had heard the SRS reports but could not comment.

Suriname's last ambassador to Guyana, Hank Herrenburg was transferred to Holland about two weeks ago.

Hague Envoy: No Casualties

LD082240 Hilversum Domestic Service in Dutch 2130 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Suriname's ambassador in the Hague, Herrenburg, has said there were no casualties during what he called the incidents of last night in Suriname. The ambassador also said Suriname's Commander Bouterse will address the population on television at 0000 Dutch time.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in the Hague said there is still no comment on the situation in Suriname because the necessary information is lacking.

The Radika commercial radio station has been closed several times because of accusations of counterrevolutionary activities. On the independent ABC transmitter a talk was interrupted by Cyril Daal, chairman of the Moederbond trade union federation. It was alleged that Daal had used offensive language addressed to army leader Bouterse. The Moederbond has been in conflict with the Suriname leaders because of a general strike at the end of October. The strike was to protest the authorities' actions during a work stoppage by air traffic controllers. The independent newspaper VRIJE STEM has been in conflict with Suriname's military authorities several times.

According to latest and unconfirmed reports, an evening curfew has been imposed in Suriname.

Martial Law Applied

PY090228 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0150 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] Caracas, 8 Dec (TELAM) -- In view of an increase of civil violence, Col Daysi Bouterse, the strongman of the Suriname military regime, has canceled the constitutional guarantees in the country and today submitted his capital, Paramaribo, to strict control by the armed forces under a state of siege and martial law.

The first indications of the seriousness of the situation in the former Netherlands colony in the far northeast of the South American continent were received in this capital today, when radio broadcasts from the capital of Suriname stated that Colonel Bouterse's government had to take strong measures in order to prevent a bloodbath in the country.

Sources among Netherlands residents in Caracas said that Suriname has been going through a period of deep political and military instability since Colonel Bouterse formally took the reins of absolute government of the country in March this year in a climate of anarchy and discontent among the people.

International political observers have pointed out that Bouterse, who headed the 1980 military coup in the former Dutch Guyana, tried to implement a leftist autocratic system soon clashing with the most rebellious and combative sectors of the labor unions and students of that country freed from the Dutch crown in 1975.

The causes of the increasing unrest in Suriname have also been attributed to the inflexible refusal of Colonel Bouterse's regime to normalize political activities and call for new parliamentary and governmental elections in the country which has endured successive coups since the democratic process was interrupted in 1980.

No confirmation was obtained regarding the rumors today that serious riots took place in Paramaribo, capital of Suriname, shortly after Colonel Bouterse, the strong man of the regime, firmly implemented military control in the country and completely shut its borders with neighboring countries.

Borders Closed

NC091106 Paris AFP in English 1059 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] The Hague, Dec 9 (AFP) -- The military strongman of Suriname, army chief Colonel Daysi Bouterse, stepped in to head off a coup in the former Dutch colony yesterday, organized by a "small elite group" of intellectuals, according to SURINAME NEWS AGENCY (SNA) reports received here.

Col. Bouterse clamped down a 7 p.m. to 4 a.m. curfew, closed the borders and air space, and ordered immediate closure of the university, all private radio stations and five newspapers, the reports said.

SNA said local journalist Jozef Slagveer, head of the private "INFORMA" news agency, had "confessed" on Suriname's state television that former Justice Minister Andre Haakmat, a trade union adviser, masterminded a plot to overthrow the Bouterse government around Christmas time. Mr Slagveer said trade union and student demonstrations in November for "a rapid return to democracy in Suriname" were in preparation for the planned coup.

It was the second time this year Col. Bouterse had intervened to foil a coup. Last August he announced he had prevented a coup planned for July 1 by Surinamese nationals living in the Netherlands.

Suriname, whose capital is Paramaribo, is on the north coast of South America, and has a population of 450,000. It became independent in 1975.

Col. Bouterse, addressing the nation over television, according to SNA, said he intervened to "put an end to a plot by a small elite group which abused its position in the press, economy and university as well as other bodies." He added: "The centres of unrest have been literally destroyed."

SNA had reported earlier that two local radio stations, a newspaper and the headquarters of Suriname's biggest trade union, Moederbond, were burned down on Tuesday night. All four were opposed to military rule.

Only a state-owned radio was operating last night, broadcasting martial music and military communiques.

It identified one of the burned down buildings as housing the local Hindi-language radio. Hindi is one of five widely spoken languages, the others being Dutch, English, Japanese and Chinese.

Sources within the 200,000-strong Surinamese community in the Dutch capital here said they had been expecting a coup, but in January.

Arrests Made

FL090043 Bridgetown CANA in English 0029 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Dec. 8, CANA -- The official SURINAME NEWS AGENCY (SNA) tonight telexed the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA) reporting the arrest of "a number of people" following a night of unrest that saw two commercial radio stations, the headquarters of the largest trade union grouping, and a newspaper building go up in flames in the South American state. But the telex gave no details of the arrests. Press reports in The Hague said several persons had been taken into custody.

The SURINAME NEWS AGENCY described the victims of the fire as "organisations which are strongly against the authorities."

It quoted the army chief, Lieutenant-Colonel Daysi Bouterse, -- the country's chief policy maker since a 1980 coup -- as saying in a radio broadcast that the army had to intervene to prevent a massacre.

It was unclear, however, exactly what had triggered the disturbances or whether there were any deaths.

The state-run Radio Barbados here, in a despatch from Guyana, one of Suriname's closest neighbours, tonight reported that youths and members of opposition political groups were picked up and jailed.

Following is the SNA telex: "This morning, in the early hours, the commander of the National Army of Suriname Lt. Col. Daysi Bouterse announced via the state radio station that the national army had to interfere last night to prevent a massacre. Four buildings were burnt down...due to the events of last night these buildings are the radio stations "ABC" and"Radika" the daily (Dutch language) "DE VRIJE TEM" (newspaper) and the building of the trade union "De Moederbond". These buildings belong to organisations which are strongly against the authorities.

"A number of people has been arrested.

"The radio further announced that the government is considering the situation which arose. Expectations are that tonight there will be a broadcast speech of the commander of the National Army."